

CITY OF BEAUMONT

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September 4, 2019

The Honorable Peggy Huang, Chair RHNA Subcommittee Southern California Association of Governments 900 Wilshire Blvd, Ste. 1700 Los Angeles, CA 90017

RE: 6th Cycle of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment Allocation

Dear Ms. Huang,

The City of Beaumont would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) draft methodology options for the SCAG region. We would like to stress that the City of Beaumont is an active partner in this process and is willing to take on its fair share of the region's housing needs; however, it is important for the City of Beaumont, as well as for all of the partnering jurisdictions, that the selected RHNA allocation methodology is equitable, achievable, and results in sustainable development.

The City of Beaumont has reviewed each of the three RHNA draft methodology options released for public input. Based on our review, the City of Beaumont supports Option 2 as the preferred option for the region for several reasons. Option 2 is the least complex of the methodologies while still providing an adequate assessment and explanation of the local share of housing need. Option 2 looks at the total housing need for an area without separating the existing and projected housing need. This establishes a comprehensive baseline for units to be built during the 6th cycle. Recognizing that not all jurisdictions have HQTA, this methodology assigns the need accordingly. Lastly, as the least complex of the methodologies, it is the easiest for agencies, staff and the general public to work with, explain and understand.

The City of Beaumont also recommends that SCAG appeal the regional determination number provided by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) as we believe SCAG has substantial basis to do so.

For the reasons identified above, the City of Beaumont supports RHNA Methodology Option 2, because it is most appropriate for the SCAG Region. The City of Beaumont appreciates the opportunity to provide input into the RHNA process. Should you have any questions, please contact Christina Taylor, Community Development Director at ctaylor@beaumontca.gov or at (951) 572-3212.

Sincerely,

Julio Martinez Mayor

City of Beaumont